

## House Resolution 1436

By: Representatives Geisinger of the 48<sup>th</sup>, Wilkinson of the 52<sup>nd</sup>, Lindsey of the 54<sup>th</sup>, Willard of the 49<sup>th</sup>, McCall of the 30<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Mr. John Augustus Wayt, Jr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens  
3 with the passing of Mr. John Augustus Wayt, Jr., on February 5, 2010; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Mr. Wayt was born in Atlanta, Georgia, graduated from North Fulton High  
5 School, and in 1948 earned a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Virginia;  
6 and
- 7 WHEREAS, upon his graduation from college, Mr. Wayt returned home to Georgia to  
8 manage his father's farm, Seven Branches; and
- 9 WHEREAS, he joined the Shakerag Hounds, a fox-hunting club, and came up with an idea  
10 of holding a steeplechase in Atlanta; and
- 11 WHEREAS, since the Atlanta Steeplechase's inaugural race in 1966, the event has grown  
12 from a backyard picnic along the Chattahoochee River with tailgating and socializing to a  
13 major event deemed the city's best lawn party; and
- 14 WHEREAS, Mr. Wayt served as chairman of the Atlanta Steeplechase until the early 2000's  
15 overseeing its move to three different locations over the past five decades, from two locations  
16 on his family's property to its current location at Kingston Downs between Cartersville and  
17 Rome; and
- 18 WHEREAS, an Eagle Scout, Mr. Wayt was awarded the National Steeplechase Association's  
19 highest honor in 2000, the Frederick Ambrose Clark Award, and he was recognized with a  
20 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Georgia Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders  
21 Association; and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Wayt was united in love and marriage to his adoring wife, Martha, and was  
23 blessed with the love of four children, Jim, John, Rebecca, and Marty, and four  
24 grandchildren; and

25 WHEREAS, he was a person of magnanimous strengths with an unimpeachable reputation  
26 for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness and, by the example he made of his life, he  
27 made this world a better place in which to live; and

28 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Mr. Wayt will long be remembered for his  
29 legacy of the Atlanta Steeplechase, and this loyal husband, father, brother, grandfather, and  
30 friend will be missed by all who had the great fortune of knowing him.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
32 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Mr. John Augustus Wayt,  
33 Jr., and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. John  
36 Augustus Wayt, Jr.